

# Richmond Times-Dispatch

THE TIMES-DISPATCH  
ESTABLISHED 1855

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1916.

Lesson of New York's Explosions

NEW YORK'S tremendous explosions on Sunday now appear to have resulted, as is the case with nearly every accident, from carelessness and disregard for the safety of others. That the loss of life was small, in proportion to the destruction of property, does not lessen the blame attaching to those responsible. At this time, when high explosives and other munitions are being manufactured and stored in this country in greater quantities than ever before, New York's experience should serve as a lesson to every community to enforce to the last letter every regulation designed to guard against disasters of this character.

Justice Hughes uses about 9,000 words to avoid saying what he would have done about Germany if he had been President.

Reform That Moves Backward

ACCORDING to a former Councilman and garbage contractor, the reason for abolishing the old contract system and turning the work over to the Street-Cleaning Department was the city's desire to have garbage removed every day. If that is true, it is certainly enough to make citizens of Richmond laugh themselves to death.

By contract, garbage was collected, under penalty and at a vastly smaller per capita cost, three times a week. Until recently it has been collected once or twice a week by the Street-Cleaning Department. The reform is manifest. If the process had not been halted, there would soon have come a time when garbage would not have been collected at all.

The Times-Dispatch does not favor a contract system in preference to an efficient Street-Cleaning Department. The Administrative Board should see to it, however, that efficiency is provided and maintained.

Suppose this government blacklisted the allies? Russia, at least, would have to stop fighting for lack of munitions.

Great Britain's Affairs, Not Ours

EXCEPT as an emotional weakness, or as a bid for popularity on the part of individual Senators, it is hard to explain the action of the Senate in requesting the President to intervene, virtually, in behalf of Roger Casement. However sympathetic may be the facts are that Casement is a British subject, convicted by a British court of treason against Great Britain. He was not hastily condemned by a court-martial, as were a number of the Irish rebels, but had every opportunity to defend himself that English jurisprudence provides for persons accused of crime, and was found guilty by a jury.

Any attempt to justify the action of the Senate by reference to protests against Russian and Turkish outrages falls to the ground as sheer sophistry. Russian pogroms and Turkish massacres are crimes against humanity, entirely without the laws of civilization. Great Britain may well regard the resolution of the Senate as an effort to interfere with an exclusively domestic affair and an unwarrantable impertinence.

It may have been good engineering to begin work on Shockoe Creek at the other end, but it was pretty hard on the residents of the overflow district.

The Speech of Acceptance

JUSTICE HUGHES and his speech of acceptance are as the mountain that labored and brought forth a mouse. For weeks we have been fed from Republican sources with descriptions of this goddess of wisdom that was to spring, full-grown, from the forehead of Jupiter, and now, behold a spiteful little animal, that merely squeaks in impotent resentment.

There are brave words, of course, in the speech. The introduction is all any one could desire in point of clarity and directness. Justice Hughes is for "dominant Americanism." He would have this country respected at home and abroad. He would speak to the point, he says, on every occasion that possessed a point. Foreign nations should tremble whenever the eagle screamed.

When he descends from the general to the particular, however, we find—nothing. Whether he thinks with Colonel Roosevelt that we should have protested when Belgium's neutrality was violated, those who read the address will sign and seek in vain to learn. Whether we should have gone to war when the Lusitania was sunk remains an unanswerable mystery still. We gather, with some difficulty, that President Wilson's foreign policy was not sufficiently decisive, but just wherein it lacked Justice Hughes does not advise us.

As to Mexico, it is a trifle more explicit. Had he been President, he would have recognized Huerta, that brutal murderer, who added the basest treachery to his other crimes. Huerta's moral character, we are told by the Republican candidate, was of no concern to the people of the United States. He should have been recognized, because he headed a de facto government. On this issue President Wilson may appeal with entire confidence to the decent instincts of the people of the United States.

We do not know, however, whether in the event of Justice Hughes's election there will be armed intervention in Mexico. He leaves that issue on the knees of the gods. He

criticizes what has been done, but, save with the vaguest of vague generalities, he outlines no alternative policy.

The speech is filled with those "weasel words." Colonel Roosevelt so recently condemned. It is possible to read into it endorsement of nearly everything the reader approves. It is intended, like the old gentleman's fish trap, "to catch 'em a-comin' and a-goin'." Perhaps it will, but in our judgment it will have an exactly contrary effect.

Although nothing is being said about the Easley case and the Tax Board, the State remembers the whole affair. It may have an opportunity to vote some day on something or somebody connected with the unsavory mess.

Plain Words to Britain

WORDS cannot be plainer than those addressed by this government to Great Britain on the subject of the British black list of American business firms. It is made entirely clear the United States will not permit its citizens to be penalized for actions approved by international law without taking steps to redress the wrong.

The text of the note makes it evident that the administration is in possession of facts that have not been shared hitherto with the general public. Evidently the State Department has been hearing from some of the firms and individuals on the black list and from others who fear their names will appear on a subsequent list unless they consent to participate, at least negatively, in the allied prosecution of the war.

"Neutral bankers," says the note, "refuse loans to those on the list and neutral merchants decline to contract for their goods, fearing a like proscription."

Americans doing business in foreign countries have been put on notice that their dealings with black-listed firms are to be regarded as subject to veto by the British government. By the same principle Americans in the United States might be made subject to similar punitive action if they were found dealing with any of their own countrymen whose names had thus been listed.

Under such circumstances, no avowal of a British purpose to soften the application of a principle "inevitably and essentially inconsistent with the rights of all the nations not involved in war" can be acceptable to this government. As a matter of internal law, Britain may insist on making this discrimination, just as this country may erect a tariff wall against a particular country, but in the latter case the United States will expect retaliation, and in the former case Britain will be extraordinarily blind if she expects anything else.

As The Times-Dispatch has said on other occasions, the most conspicuous attribute of the British black list, as applied to American citizens, is its folly. Germany cannot be greatly hurt by this policy. Either affection for the country of their birth or ancestry, or the prospect of the enormous gains the traffic holds out, will be sufficient to keep at their task such Americans as have been engaged in supplying the wants of the central powers. They will not bow to British dictation. They will be hurt and their operations will be rendered more difficult, but for every difficulty there will be additional compensation. The real sufferers will be neutral traders who find themselves in business relations with those proscribed.

The uncertainty and resentment and actual loss thus to be caused will make the black list a very unprofitable venture. The enormous material assistance that allied control of the seas has enabled Britain, France and Russia to obtain from this country has been accompanied by the strongest and most active sympathy. America has felt the allies were fighting the battle of freedom and civilization, and therefore has prayed for allied success. The black list is a stab in the back. The best thing for Great Britain to do is to withdraw from a position which promises no profit, but which may result in substantial losses of business and affection.

The Colonel is now furiously engaged in making Oyster Bay sanitary. But he can't do anything to clean up his Progressive record.

Give the Children Riley Day

OUT in Indiana three plans for a memorial to James Whitcomb Riley are being discussed; to build a monument to him; to name a library after him, and to make his birthday a holiday. How can there be doubt as to which of these would be most fitting? It is hard to picture warm, human Riley as perpetuated in bronze or marble, nor, we believe, would he have it so. Formal, conventional, highly developed art-form meant little to him; the massive or the stately or even the carefully exquisite formed no part of his life or work. For like reasons, a library would not be a true memorial. As a number of the superior have pointed out since his death, he was not a "cultured" poet; his lyrics were neither scholarly nor shapely. He never pored over books to evolve a verse in sonnet-form, filled with classical allusion; it may be doubted if he had at the tip of his tongue the names of all the Muses. So, a great collection of books, stacked and card-indexed, would not be a memorial to him.

But all out-doors was his, and those who loved him went with him into the woods and fields, either to play or to be quietly and dream of other days out-doors. Or, if he did not go out into the open, he sat in front of the fire and told stories, mostly children's stories. He was no literary poet, no teller of great deeds in mighty epics, no trumpeter of a new day. He sang of the simple, homely things of life, and the children understood his every song. He was, in very truth, the poet of childhood. And if Indiana would make a memorial that would keep his memory as he would have it kept, she must give her children, for their very own, his birthday and call it—Riley Day.

Great Britain now prohibits the importation of cocaine and opium into the United Kingdom on account of the growth of the drug habit. Those who are familiar with England's shameful share in the opium trade for so many years will wonder if retributive justice isn't something more than a phrase.

When the State begins to negotiate with Canada for automobile reciprocity, the Legislature might agree to throw in a lot of chauffeurs we know for nothing.

The theory of many automobile operators is that the public won't know they are on the street unless they keep their mufflers wide open.

With eighty-seven young doctors turned loose by the State board, the price of basement offices ought to go up.

## SEEN ON THE SIDE

A Soldier's Lament.

Well, perhaps you think it's funny. We are kept here where it's sunny. Where the lack of milk and honey plunges us in grief profound; But it's really quite annoying. For the food we get is cloying. And our stay we're not enjoying.

On the old camp ground.

When the fields we are not diking, Over other fields we're hiving. Or, perhaps, engaged in striking Tents as heavy as they're found; You may think this life is jolly. But to us it seems pure folly. Which explains the melancholy.

On the old camp ground.

Back in town real meals invite us. There are comforts to delight us. While out here mosquitoes bite us—Yes, those pests in droves abound; Every morning we awaken With wild longings we are shaken For the fleshpots we've forsaken.

For the old camp ground.

Come, kind President, and see us. And then of your mercy free us. Liberty please guarantee us. And we will your praises sound; For the fact is, we are tired—We've got all that we desire—And we'll shout when we are fired.

From the old camp ground.

The Peasants' Lament.

It's not true that troubles never come singly. The fact of the matter is that twins are rather rare.

Shakespeare Day by Day.

For the soldier of the legion: "The tyrant custom, most grave senators, Hath made the flinty and steel couch of war, My thrice-driven bed of down."

—Othello, I. 3.

For the critic of the times: "Cudgel thy brains no more about it; for your dull ass will not mend his pace with beating."—Hamlet, V. 1.

For Shockoe Creek: "The rankest compound of villainous smell that ever offended nostril."—Merry Wives of Windsor, III. 5.

For the unsuccessful lover: "Platter and praise, commend, extol their graces; Though never so black, say they have angels' faces."

That man that hath a tongue, I say, is no man, If with his tongue he cannot win a woman."—Two Gentlemen of Verona, III. 1.

Disappointed.

He—Before we were married, you said you would never make any effort to control my actions.

She—Before we were married, I thought you had some ability to control your own actions.

In the Wrong Season.

"Aren't you ashamed to beg your food?" asked the late housekeeper to the ragged person who had applied to her for assistance. "You ought to be willing to work."

"I am willing to work at my trade," replied the wanderer, holding himself out of the rays of the summer's sun.

"And what is your trade?"

"I am a snow-shoveler, ma'am."

To-Day's Best Hand-Picked Joke.

"How would you like to go with me on a fishing trip in a few weeks?" the fat plumber asked his friend, the thin carpenter.

"To like it all right," the carpenter returned, "but I am afraid it is out of the question."

"Why?"

"I couldn't think of an excuse to give my wife for going out of town at this time."

"Haven't you any good excuses at all?"

"Why not? I don't want to use them just now."

"Well, I'll tell the truth, I am saving them for house-cleaning time!"—Youngstown Telegram.

Graces.

Faith, and Hope, and Charity, Gracious sisters are these three: Faith and Hope on man's best call, Charity's for them who fall.

Health Talk, by Dr. Wm. Brady

Acidity.

In health the gastric juice contains a little less than 1 per cent of hydrochloric (muriatic) acid, which is essential as a medium for the digestive action of pepsin. Normal gastric juice is therefore acid.

What do people mean when they say they have an "acid stomach," or "acidity"? This is a trying problem in practice. The hydrochloric acid may be secreted in excessive quantities in certain nervous troubles, in gastric or duodenal ulcer, sometimes as a reflex symptom of eye-strain or chronic appendicitis; or the hydrochloric acid may be secreted in insufficient quantities, and this will mean delay in digestion, and that will permit fermentation by the ever-present bacteria and yeasts, and so a lot of organic acids are produced—lactic, butyric, acetic, etc., or with chronic indigestion, or by emotional depression, and the food tube becomes the theater of fermentation and the production of the acids of fermentation already mentioned.

Either hydrochloric acid or the other acids will cause burning, boring, gnawing pain or irritation, especially when the stomach is empty. And either form of acidity is temporarily neutralized by soda, magnesium and other alkalies. But the treatment of the two would be obviously very different. Foods which would be advisable for one with excessive hydrochloric acid would be likely to aggravate the acidity of fermentation. Medicine which would diminish excessive hydrochloric secretion would favor fermentation in a case of acidity due to fermentation of atrophic atony. The hydrochloric acid is the natural disinfectant of the stomach.

The only way to determine whether acidity is from excessive hydrochloric acid or from fermentation is by using the stomach tube. And this is nowhere nearly so disagreeable an experience as people imagine. A test meal and analysis of the gastric juice is worth a great deal to the patient. It lifts his case from the realm of conjecture to that of positive knowledge. The stomach tube should be looked upon as a sort of landmark between disease and ease. Without it the stomach specialist would be just as bad a guesser as the family doctor often is constrained to be.

Soda, the popular remedy, is harmless to take, but it produces too much gas in the stom-

ach. Milk of magnesia in teaspoonful doses, or aromatic spirits of ammonia, ten or fifteen drops in half a glass of water, as often as needed, would be better.

Assuming that "acidity" is not a symptom of organic disease, the best remedy we know for it is fasting.

Questions and Answers.

Relieving a Frontal Sinusitis—is an operation necessary to relieve a frontal sinus?

Answer—If the frontal sinus is infected and full of pus, an operation is necessary to relieve it.

Dampness Not a Factor of Disease—I am troubled with catarrh and am a little hard of hearing. Would it be harmful to me to live in a stone building which seems damp and chilly?

Answer—It wouldn't make a particle of difference what kind of a building you live in so far as health is concerned.

Our Best Advertisement—A year ago I wrote you about my incurable rheumatism. You suggested my tonsils as a possible factor. On that suggestion I had them removed, and I am now practically cured. As you say a little sober thought sometimes does more than much medicine. I wish to express my gratitude to you for that little sober thought. The beauty of your sober thoughts is that they are so well diluted with pleasantities that even an invalid enjoys your daily talks.

Answer—Business of blushing. Curtain.

News of Fifty Years Ago

(From the Richmond Dispatch, July 31, 1866.)

There was a big sale yesterday of captured and abandoned property conducted by the United States military authorities. Among other things sold at auction was the steamer W. W. Trench, which was bought by Styll & Davis for \$3,600. Myers & Brother bought the steamer Rocket for \$2,650. The steam tug J. H. Parker went to J. E. Faulkner for \$375. The small barges Malvern and Richmond were bought by John J. Werth, who paid \$800 for the two.

The reported case of cholera on Seventeenth Street was actually cholera at first supposed, but simply an old Virginia case of cholera morbus. The patient came in from the country and, having missed his dinner, ate a big supper consisting of beefsteak and eggs and various other dishes. Later he bought a watermelon, just in from Hanover, and ate it all. He then went to bed and to sleep, but was awakened about 2 o'clock in the night by violent pains. He died before day, but there were no symptoms of Asiatic cholera; just plain cholera morbus.

The Adams Express Company has reduced rates just one-half to and from all points touched by the National Express Company. The rates were raised by the National Express Company in a fraction. Competition may have the life of trade, but in this case it may mean the death of one or the other of the express companies.

The startling information has come to light that Judge Underwood testified before the Reconstruction Committee that he could, and would, if necessary, back a jury guaranteed to convict Mr. Davis on the indictment found against him by Underwood's Norfolk jury. Underwood explained that he could do this because he was personally acquainted with every "ardent Union man" in Virginia.

Just before the adjournment of Congress Saturday night, or rather Sunday morning, the Senate confirmed the nomination of Charles Williams to be postmaster at Frederick.

Havana dates of the 19th says Carolina, the "Empress of Mexico," arrived there on the 17th on her way to Europe. She was received with honors and royalty, although it all she was said, and to a confidential friend she expressed the fear that she would never again see her husband, Emperor Maximilian.

Congratulatory messages have passed over the Atlantic cable between Queen Victoria and President Johnson. They were among the first telegrams flashed under the waters.

Alexander H. Stephens and Herschel V. Johnson, both of whom have been named as delegates to the National Conservative Convention to be held in Philadelphia.

A steamer left New York last Saturday for Mexico, bound for Vera Cruz, with arms and ammunition for the United States army. Shipments included twelve pieces of heavy artillery. Major-General Lew Wallace and Brigadier-General Stevenson, late of the Union army, were passengers on the steamer.

There were 750 deaths in New York last week, being a decrease of over 600 as compared with the week ending July 24. There were 10 deaths from cholera in Brooklyn and New York on Sunday.

The Voice of the People

Aid for Catawba.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir: This morning I saw an article in your paper which gratified me more than any that I have seen in a long time. It was in regard to the donation of twenty-four cots to the Catawba Sanatorium by the Virginia Antituberculosis Association. I have just returned from a visit to Catawba, and I have seen the splendid work being done there, and the urgent need for greater facilities. As stated in your paper, patients can only be accommodated for four months, and must leave when their time limit expires, even when they are somewhat recovered. I am sure that the doctors, but simply because they are unable to accommodate more patients. While I saw one man leaving who, during his entire four months at the sanatorium, had been in the infirmary, and he had to go. Many of the patients who leave have practically nowhere to go. They are still in a weakened condition, unable to work, and the homes are not always suitable for them to return to and continue the cure. The Catawba Alumni Association is doing a noble work in assisting patients who could not afford to stay the entire four months and in giving some assistance to those who leave. But of course its scope is limited. At present, the needs of the greatest number are not being met. I would be glad to see efforts started to secure one, and would be glad to help in the work. The school, which was made possible through the untiring efforts of Charles E. Brauer, means a great deal to Catawba. I am glad that Catawba is the only tuberculosis sanatorium which has a nursing training course. Practically every nurse there has been a patient at one time. If every one who has been cured for some time could give for more money to carry on the work, only they could see the marvelous improvement in the sanatorium. The school, which was made possible through the untiring efforts of Charles E. Brauer, means a great deal to Catawba. 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